



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ml

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/755,044	01/09/2004	Dieter Barnard	GR03P00161	8667
24131	7590	08/03/2007		
LERNER GREENBERG STEMER LLP			EXAMINER	
P O BOX 2480			CHAMPAGNE, LUNA	
HOLLYWOOD, FL 33022-2480				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3627	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			08/03/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/755,044

Applicant(s)

BARNARD ET AL.

Examiner

Luna Champagne

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 June 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's amendments filed on 6/04/07 is acknowledged. Claims 1-7 are presented for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed June 18, 2004, (specifically document number 0905961 A2 dated 3/31/99 of Europe, and document number 0115425 A2, dated 3/01/01 of WIPO) fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because there is no English translation currently on file. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits. Applicant is advised that the date of any re-submission of any item of information contained in this information disclosure statement or the submission of any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the statement, including all certification requirements for statements under 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609.05(a).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Art Unit: 3627

3. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shigemi et al. (US 7,031,940 B2).

Shigemi et al. teach a method for charging for services or content in a communications network, which comprises the steps of (*see col. 8, lines 31-33*): a user signing on to the communications network only once (*see col. 5, lines 44-46*); the user requesting a service or the content from a service provider (*see col. 1 lines 60-64*); performing a check in the communications network at a request of the service provider for ascertaining whether the service provider will be able to charge the user (*see col. 5, lines 2-4*); and enabling a provision of the service or the content on completion of the check (*see col. 5, lines 7-16*).

As per claim 2, Shigemi et al. teach a method, which further comprises binding a reservation of an amount due to the service provider (*see col. 5, lines 37-40*).

As per claim 3, Shigemi et al. teach a method, which further comprises sending a non-binding advisory concerning successful checking of charging to the service provider (*see col. 5, lines 49-52*).

As per claim 4, Shigemi et al. teach a method, which further comprises confirming, through the service provider, a delivery of the service or the content (*see col. 2, lines 45-50*).

Art Unit: 3627

As per claim 5, Shigemi et al. teach a method, which further comprises providing a confirmation of service delivery received within a pre-specified period of time (*see col. 7, lines 37-44*).

As per claim 6, Shigemi et al. teach a method, which further comprises authorizing, via the user, an amount reserved for the service (*see col. 6, lines 42-43*).

As per claim 7, Shigemi et al. teach a device in a communications network, the device comprising: means for authenticating and authorizing (*see col. 5, lines 2-16*); means for rendering payment; and means for communicating with a user and with external service providers, the user having previously signed on once only in the communications network, and a service or content can be requested from a service provider by the user via said means for communicating, (*see claim 10*), and after a request to do so by the service provider, a check being performed by said means for authenticating and authorizing to ascertain whether the service provider will be able to duly charge the user for the service or content (*see col. 5, lines 2-4*).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 through 7 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Shigemi et al. fail to teach or suggest "a single sign on service". However, for example, lines 52-67 of column 4, continued on lines 1-17 of column 5, teach a user signing on to a network once and

Art Unit: 3627

proceeding to register his mail address and purchase goods from the same network.

Shigemi et al. do not teach the user logging off and signing on again.

As to Applicant's argument that Shigemi et al. do not "ascertain whether the service will be able to charge the user prior to authorizing the user's request", Shigemi et al. , via lines 2-11 of column 5, teach the user at terminal 1, then the notification to the "use information management unit, then the authorization process by the use information management; based on a "discrimination" results, the purchase transaction is either allowed or denied.

Shigemi et al. fully anticipate the limitations disclosed in Applicant's claims.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

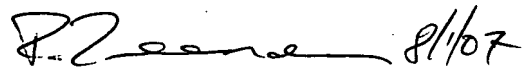
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luna Champagne whose telephone number is (571) 272-7177. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Florian Zeender can be reached on (571) 272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Luna Champagne
Examiner
Art Unit 3627

July 27, 2007

 8/1/07
F. RYAN ZEENDER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER